or other High Courts have given any directions for regularisation of such wage-doctors, if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The appointment of Medical Officers on monthly wage basis is purely a temporary arrangement made to tide over the situation created due to non-availability of doctors through regular channels. The appointment of Medical Officers on monthly wage basis after a break of one day after every spell of 90 days is treated as a fresh appointment and the candidate must be within the age limit of 35 years at the commencement of each fresh spell of appointment.

(d) No, Sir.

Entrance Examination for Medical Studies in the Post-Graduate Medical Institutions

156. DR. H. P. SHARMA:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the light of recent judgement of the Supreme Court a definite percentage of seats for post-graduate medical studies in various post-graduate medical institutions are to be filled on the basis of an all India competition irrespective of domicile restrictions as has been done for entrance test to M.B.B.S. courses; and

(b) if so, what steps have so far been taken in the matter and by when such first competition would be held, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the directions of the Supreme Court delivered in their judgement dated 21-7-1986, a revised scheme, formulated in consultation with the Medical Council of India, for holding All India Entrance Examination for admission to 25 per cent of the total seats in postgraduate Medical Courses has been submitted to the Supreme Court for approval. Clarifications have also been sought from the Supreme Court on certain points in connection with the All India Entrance Examination.

Meanwhile, pending further clarifications from the Supreme Court steps are being taken by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi to hold the first All India Entrance Examination for admission to Post-graduate Medical Courses for the academic year commencing in 1988.

Location of Schools nearest the Students residences

157. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey was made recently by Government to assess the number of school going children in the country;

(b) if so, when and what was the number of such schools going children in the age group of 6 and 14 years;

(c) whether Government are aware that there are a number of places in every State where the parents of children of said age group are unable to send their children to schools, due to the distance involved; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to provide schools for the children of this age group, nearest to their homes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMEN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The Fifth Educational Survey to determine the number of school going children, among other things, is in progress. However, according to information available in the Ministry, in 1984-85 the enrolment percentage in the age group 6—11 years (class I—V) was 96.3 and in the age group 11—14 years (classes VI—VIII) was 52 2.

(c) and (d) While in most of the country the primary and upper primary schools/sections are available within reasonable distance, there are still some pockets in the country where children have to walk fairly long distances to reach the schools. As per the Fourth All India Educational Survey conducted by NCERT with 30th September, 1978 as the reference date, 92.82 per cent of the rural population was served with primary schools/sections within a walking distance of one km. and 78.83 per cent of the rural population was served with middle schools/sections within a distance of three kms. This coverage will have gone up further in the subsequent years. The Fifth Education Survey to determine the present position in this regard is in progress. The Programme of Action drawn up to implement National Policy on Education, 1986 states that "All State Governments will ensure that all habitations with a population of 300 (200 in the case of tribal hilly and desert areas) will be provided a primary school within the Seventh Plan". A letter has been recently sent to all the States/Union Territories requesting them to initiae action to open new schools in these manner as early as possible. In addition, a large number of non-formal education centre have been opened within the habitations and their number is proposed to be further increased so as to make education availlable in close proximity of the learners. As laid down in the Programme of Action, the states are expected to take up school mapping exercise so that schools are opened in coming years in unserved areas.

Status of Unani Physician in the C.G.H.S. Dispensaries

158. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Unani Physicians in C.G.H.S. dispensaries and units are holding the status of Class-II Gazetted officers whereas some Class III non-Gazetted employees have been allowed by the C.G.H.S. to officiate on the post of Unani specialist and prescribe medicines to C.G.H.S. Unani beneficiaries;

(b) if so, what are the justifications for the same; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the objections raised by the Unani physicians in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) No Class III non-Gazetted employee has been authorised to prescribe medicines to C.G.H.S. Unani beneficiaries.

Comparative Study regarding Health and Medical Facilities available in the State of Bihar with that in the country in general

159. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comparative study has been made as to the nature and extent of health and medical benefits available to the people of Bihar with that in the country in general; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome thereof and if not what steps have been